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Influenza Vaccine
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Immunization Program

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ACIP Recommends Smokers Get PPSV

In October, CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted to add smoking as an indication for pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV) for adults 19 through 64 years-old.

ACIP also voted in favor of the following proposals regarding PPSV.

- To change the age range for asthmatics to receive PPSV to 19 through 64 years old (previously the age range was 18 to 64 years-old).
- Not to recommend routine PPSV vaccination of Alaska Natives/American Indians 2 through 64 years of age with no other indications (previously, routine vaccination was recommended for all AN/AI in this age group). However, in special situations, public health authorities may now recommend vaccination for Alaska Natives/American Indians 50- 64 years-old living in areas of increased risk.
- Not to routinely administer PPSV after vaccination with PCV for AN/AI children 24 through 59 months. However, in special situations, public health authorities may now recommend PPSV vaccination for these children if they are living in areas of increased risk.
- For persons who are immuno-compromised, have sickle cell disease or asplenia, standardize the interval between first and second dose of PPSV to 5 years (it had previously been 5 years for some people, 3 years for others).

The new recommendations will be published in a future edition of CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR).

VFC Vaccine Availability Update

Hepatitis A (Pediatric)

- VAQTA® (Merck), 10 pack, Single Dose Vials are now available to order

Influenza

- FluMist® Available!! We have been notified by several providers that they have a supply of FluMist® vaccine that will be expiring during December.
- FluMist® expiration dates available are 12/18/08, 12/23/08 & 12/28/08
- If you are in need of VFC FluMist® and are able to use it before the expiration dates above, please contact Jill King at (317) 501-7461 or jiking@isdh.in.gov to schedule a transfer.
- See page 2 for more information on what to do with FluMist® that expires in December 2008 or January 2009.

MedImmune FluMist® Replacement Program

Due to the short expiration date on FluMist®, MedImmune has established the FluMist Replacement Program for the 2008-2009 season.

The replacement program allows for the replacement of unused, expiring FluMist® doses, at no cost, to help you maximize vaccination opportunities. MedImmune has contracted with McKesson to implement this program.

The Replacement Program requirements include:

- VFC FluMist® doses only! Doses must expire on or before January 30, 2009. Private stock is not eligible.
- Product must be used on a first-to expire- first-used basis.
- Providers have from 15 days prior to the expiration date stamped on the sprayer until January 30, 2009 to request replacement doses. Request made after the close of business on January 30, 2009 will not be honored.
- All expired/expiring doses must be received by McKesson by Friday, February 13, 2009. Replacement product will not be shipped until expired/expiring doses are received.

For other requirements and directions for returning FluMist® to McKesson, go to www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc/downloads/med-instr-fm-508.doc

You **must** complete and include a CDC Return Request Form with your return! To download the form go to www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc/downloads/med-fm-rff.doc

You **must** also follow standard VFC procedure with documenting Wasted/Returned Vaccine and return the required paperwork to ISDH, along with a copy of the CDC Return Request Form.

Please contact us at immunize@isdh.in.gov if you have any questions or trouble accessing the CDC Return Request Form or instructions.

Google Flu Trends Launched

In November, Google.org launched Google Flu Trends, a website that provides real-time influenza-like illness (ILI) estimates based on public search queries on Google.com.

Google Flu Trends allows researchers, public health officials and the general public to learn more about current ILI activity levels in each state.

For more information, visit the Flu Trends Web-page at <http://www.google.org/flu Trends/>.

New ISDH Program Staff

We are pleased to welcome Alex ThurdeKoos the to ISDH Immunization program.

Alex will be filling the Adult/Adolescent Immunization Coordinator position.

You can contact Alex at 317-233-7758 or AlThurdeKoos@isdh.in.gov

Welcome to the team, Alex!

Questions of the Week

Q. If we run out of adult flu vaccine, can we give two pediatric doses instead?

- A. Many of you have asked if it is possible to combine two pediatric doses of flu vaccine (0.25 ml) to get one older child/adult dose (0.5 ml). The CDC does not recommend doing this if the correct dose of vaccine is available.

However, rather than miss an opportunity to vaccinate, you may give two separate 0.25 ml injections at separate sites on the same day to equal one 0.5 ml adult vaccine. Do NOT try to combine two 0.25 ml doses into one syringe.

Q. If a child has a commercial insurance as primary and Indiana Medicaid as secondary insurance, are they eligible for VFC vaccines?

- A. Yes. If the child has Indiana Medicaid, even as a secondary insurance, they are VFC eligible. You should use VFC vaccine and bill the administration fee through Medicaid.

Q. Do you need to restart a Hepatitis B series if the child or adult has missed a booster and not received all three doses?

- A. No. There is no maximum interval between hepatitis B vaccine doses. So, if a child starting kindergarten received his first hepatitis B shot at birth, but has not had his second or third shots, he would need 2 doses of vaccine, separated by at least 8 weeks, to complete his hepatitis B immunization series. The minimum intervals for hepatitis B vaccine must be met as follows: at least 4 weeks between dose 1 and dose 2, a minimum age of 24 weeks for dose 3 with at least 8 weeks between dose 2 and dose 3 and at least 16 weeks between dose 1 and dose 3.

Please continue to call with your vaccine-related questions or email us at immunize@isdh.in.gov!

Reminder!

Holiday Shipping Schedule

McKesson Specialty Distribution will not ship VFC vaccine orders during the following specified dates.

- December 20-24
- January 1-3

Merck has established the following shipment schedule for direct frozen vaccine shipments.

This schedule is for Merck ONLY.

December 17 Final regular shipping day for VFC frozen vaccines for delivery by Friday 12/19/08

December 22 Next day air or next day ground only for Tuesday delivery emergency only

December 23 Only special requests for Next Day am delivery for Wednesday

December 25 Closed

December 26 No vaccines shipping

December 29 Only special requests next day air or next day ground for Tuesday delivery

December 30 No overnights - UPS closed 12/31 and 1/1/09

December 31 Closed

January 1 Closed

January 2 No vaccines shipping

What are You Doing for NIVW?

National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW) NIVW is December 8-14.

CDC has many influenza resources available at the Flu Website (<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>), including free materials such as flyers, posters, stickers, and public service announcements for various public audiences and healthcare providers at the Flu Gallery.

Please check the Gallery for new materials throughout the influenza season.

CHIRP Tip

To print a summary of a patient's immunizations and forecast, simply click "Print Page" from the Vaccination View/Add screen.

This link is located directly across from the CHIRP phone number on the top left-hand corner.

Using this link will generate a printer-friendly document that fits on a single sheet of paper.

Upcoming Events

December 18, 2008; 12:00pm—2:00pm (EST) Immunization Webcast

The Immunization Encounter, Critical Issues
Presented by CDC, For more information go to <http://www2a.cdc.gov/phtn/imm-encounter2008/default.asp>

December 19, 2008; 8:30am—3:30pm (EST) A-Z Training with VFC & CHIRP training

Harrison County Hospital
1141 Hospital Dr., NW
Corydon, IN 47112
To registration contact Sharon Griffin.
sgriffin@isdh.in.gov or 317-670-8826

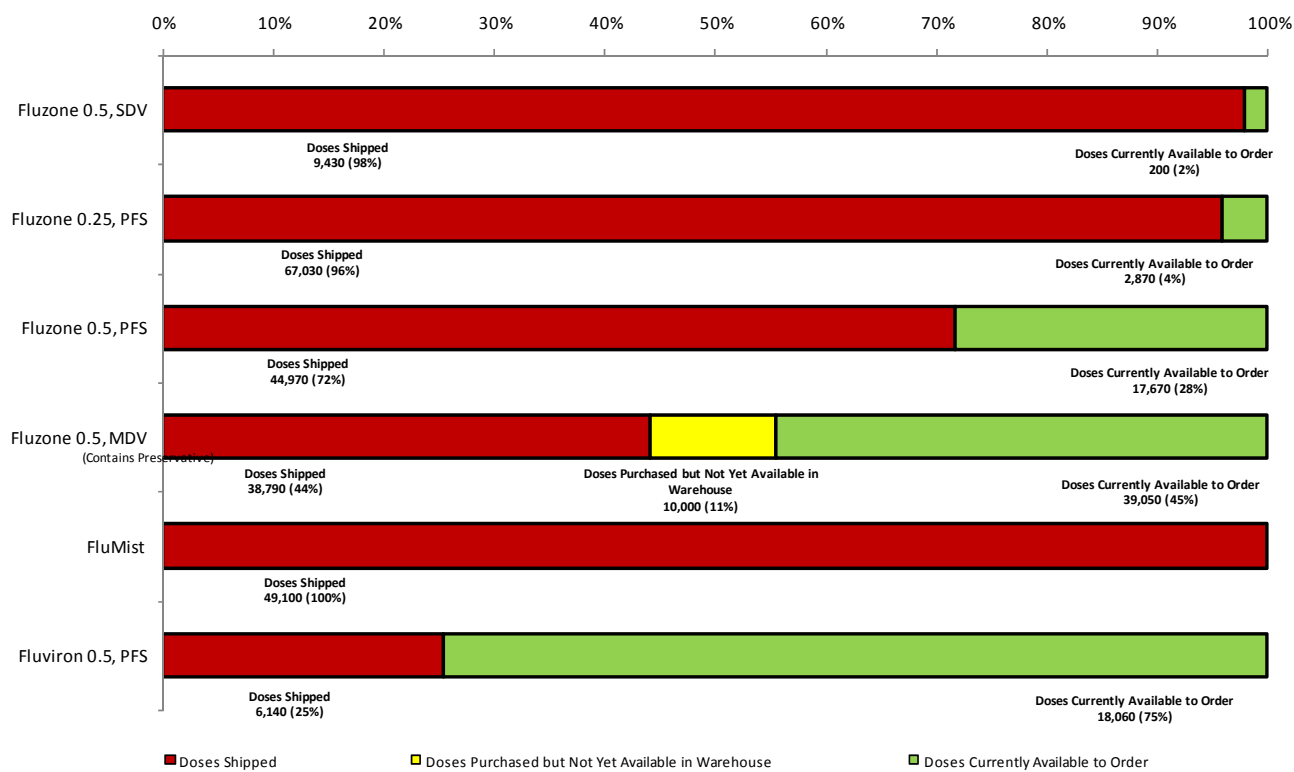
January 30, 2009; 9:30am - 11:30am (EST) User Group Meeting

Columbus Learning Center
4555 Central Ave, #2100
Columbus, IN 47203

January 30, 2009; 1:15pm - 3:00pm (EST) Introduction to CHIRP Training Session

Columbus Learning Center
4555 Central Ave, #2100
Columbus, IN 47203
Registration required.
Call (888) 227-4439 to register.

Influenza Vaccine Supply Availability As of Friday, December 5, 2008



Doses Shipped refers to doses that have been processed by McKesson and shipped to providers.

Doses Currently Available to Order refers to doses that are currently available at the McKesson warehouse. Once the vaccine has been received at McKesson, the Immunization program staff will send the orders to McKesson for processing.

Doses Purchases but Not Yet Available in Warehouse refers to vaccine that has been purchased by ISDH but has not been shipped by the manufacturer to the McKesson warehouse.

Reminder that flu shipments may come in multiple shipments and that the vaccine that currently is not yet available should arrive at McKesson sometime in November.

***Backorders** may reduced number of doses available to order.

Providers may submit orders for more doses of any currently available influenza vaccine.